

Message Text

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21

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SEDU, PO

SUBJ: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EDUCATION

REF: 5098

SUMMARY: SOLIDARITY STRIKE AT LISBON UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LETTERS RESULTS IN ITS CLOSING. MIN/ED ANNOUNCES PLANS TO ESTABLISH SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AT LISBON UNIV. WITHIN TWO YEARS. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RE-APPROVES FREE UNIVERSITY FOR WORKERS (UNIABE) BY DECREE-LAW. END SUMMARY.

1. LISBON UNIV. FACULTY OF LETTERS. LISBON UNIV. FACULTY OF LETTERS CLOSED JAN. 19 AS A RESULT OF A SOLIDARITY STRIKE BY SOME FACULTY, STUDENTS AND STAFF IN SYMPATHY WITH WORKERS DEMANDING OVERTIME PAY AND REFUSING TO WORK AT NIGHT. UNIV. PROFESSORS TOLD EMBOFF STRIKE WAS ORGANIZED AND PROMOTED BY 100-MEMBER STRONG COMMUNIST STUDENT LEAGUE. PORT/NEWS AGENCY ANOP REPORTED THAT THE PROBLEM WAS DUE TO INSUFFICIENT FUNDS TO PAY SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES THAT MIN/ED WAS INTENDING TO HIRE AT THE UNIVERSITY. STRIKERS HELD RALLY ATTENDED BY APPROX. 45 PERSONS IN FRONT OF MIN/ED AT 7:30 PM ON JAN. 19 WHERE THEY PRESENTED THEIR REQUIREMENTS TO SECSTATE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION DR. ANTONIO BROTAS FOR CONDITIONS TO BE MET IN ORDER TO RE-OPEN FACULTY OF LETTERS. BROTAS MET WITH COMMITTEE OF 5 STRIKERS WHO STIPULATED THAT 11 NEW EMPLOYEES WERE
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NECESSARY TO KEEP THE SCHOOL OPEN AND FUNCTIONING AND DEMANDED

OVERTIME PAY FOR PRESENT EMPLOYEES. MIN/ED AGREED TO DEMANDS FOR OVERTIME PAY AND ADVISED COMMITTEE OF POSSIBLE BUDGET FOR HIRING 6 NEW EMPLOYEES, ADDING THAT HENCEFORTH MIN/ED WOULD ONLY NEGOTIATE WITH UNIVERSITY RECTORS, LABOR UNION LEADERS OR PROFESSORS WITH OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS. REPRESENTATIVES OF ADVISORY COUNCILS OF LISBON UNIVERSITY'S FACULTIES OF SCIENCE, LAW AND PHARMACY ALSO ADVISED MIN/ED JAN. 19 OF POSSIBILITIES FOR "CHAOS" AT THEIR SCHOOLS AS A RESULT OF BUDGET CUTS.

2. MIN/ED ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AT LISBON UNIV. WITHIN TWO YEARS OFFERING B.S. AND M.S. DEGREES. IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TAKEN BY MIN/ED TO MEET SHORTAGE OF TEACHERS FOLLOW:

--AUTHORIZATION OF PART TIME TEACHER APPOINTMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS;

--APPROVAL GRANTED TO TEACHERS WISHING TO SIGN CONTRACTS OFFERED BY MORETHAN ONE HIGH SCHOOL;

3. UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA. A REDUCED BUDGET FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF COIMBRA AMOUNTING TO APPROX US\$380,000 FOR SIX FACULTIES IS EXPECTED TO RESULT IN CONSIDERABLE CUTS IN FACULTY AND STAFF EMPLOYEES AT THE COIMBRA FACULTIES OF LETTERS AND LAW WHERE MOST POLITICAL AGITATION TAKES PLACE. COIMBRA UNIV. RECTOR TEIXEIRA RIBEIRO ANNOUNCED 1/19 THAT THE GOP AUTHORIZED BUDGET FOR THE UNIVERSITY WAS INSUFFICIENT TO PAY SALARIES OF PRESENT PERSONNEL. SOME PEOPLE IN COIMBRA UNIVERSITY CIRCLES ARE EXPECTING NEW SOLIDARITY MOVEMENTS TO DEVELOP AMONG OTHER FACULTIES IN SYMPATHY WITH SOON-TO-BE DROPPED LETTERS AND LAW FACULTY MEMBERS AND WORKERS.

4. UNIVERSITY OF THE AZORES. CLASSES AT THE NEW UNIVERSITY OF THE AZORES ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN FEB. 1976 FOR 400 STUDENTS FROM 3 ISLANDS IN THE AZORES. UNIVERSITY COURSES WILL BE TAUGHT AT PALACIO BERQUO IN PONTA DELGADA, THE SOLAR CANTO AT ANGRA DO HEROISMO AND LATER IN HORTA WHERE AN OCEANOGRAPHY INSTITUTE IS PLANNED. RECTOR OF AZORES UNIVERSITY IS DR. JOSE ENES PEREIRA CARDOSO WHOSE BIO-DATA FOLLOWS:

--DOCTORATE FROM PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY OF ROME;
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-- 1974: PROFESSOR AT UNIVERSITY OF LUANDA;
--1972-73: PRESIDENT OF ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THEOLOGY SCHOOL AND VICE-RECTOR OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IN LISBON;
--1969: CO-FOUNDER OF CENTER FOR AZOREAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROMOTION;
--1958: FOUNDED AZOREAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE; AZORES UNIV. WILL CONCENTRATE ON FOLLOWING 3 AREAS OF STUDY: AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES; PUBLIC AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION;

OCEANOGRAPHY.

5. NEW LISBON UNIVERSITY. NEW LISBON UNIVERSITY (UNL) IS NOW ACCEPTING STUDENT REGISTRATION BUT OPENING DATE HAS NOT YET BEEN SET.

6. UNIABE. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RE-APPROVED BY DECREE-LAW (1/12) THE 5TH GOP PROPOSAL TO SET UP A FREE UNIVERSITY FOR WORKERS (UNIABE) WITHIN 3 YEARS. UNIABE (DESCRIBED REFTEL) WILL SPECIALIZE IN EDUCATION BY CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV, CORRESPONDENCE COURSES AND WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO CONFER DEGREES LIKE OTHER PORTUGUESE UNIVERSITIES.

7. COMMENT: CLOSING OF LISBON UNIV. FACULTY OF LETTERS DOES NOT AFFECT SPECIAL COURSE FOR FOREIGNERS IN WHICH U.S. FULBRIGHTERS ARE ENROLLED.
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